

THE GRID: THE NEXT INTERNET REVOLUTION

It is called the Grid, and scientists say that before long it will change everything we do, from scientific research to business to tackling fires to booking holidays and even to the way we watch and craft movies.

The Internet currently consists of huge servers which contain information on web pages that is then downloaded onto computers. As a user, you are limited in what you can do with that information by how much memory or processing power your own computer has.

Under the Grid, the power of your machine—all the gigabytes, RAM and gigahertz—becomes irrelevant. No matter how primitive and cheap your computer, you will have access to more computing power than currently exists in the Pentagon.

A small handheld computer, connected by mobile phone to the Internet, would become a supercomputer. Movies could be edited and watched on it. It could access a word processor that is stored on a computer somewhere in cyberspace.

Bob Jones, a Grid project manager who was at CERN when the original web was invented, talks of applications in biology. More and more genomes are being sequenced, producing masses of information, so the Grid is the perfect means for analysing and sharing that data, he says.

"It took eight years for the Internet to catch on," he says. "This time, governments and scientists are already on board,



so the results will be seen far quicker. It'll be like the web: when you have it, you'll wonder how you ever got by without it." (Source: The Guardian, July 3, 2003)

LIFELOG: DARPA'S PROPOSED SURVEILLANCE DATABASE

The Pentagon is about to embark on a stunningly ambitious research project designed to gather every conceivable bit of information about a person's life, index all the information and make it searchable.

The embryonic LifeLog program would dump everything an individual does—every email sent or received, every picture taken, every web page surfed, every phone call made, every TV show watched, every

magazine read—into a gigantic database.

All of this and more would be combined with information gleaned via a variety of sources—a GPS transmitter to keep tabs on where that person went, audio-visual sensors to capture what he or she saw or said, and biomedical monitors to keep track of the individual's health.

According to a briefing from the Defense Advanced Projects Research Agency (DARPA), LifeLog's sponsor, this vast amalgamation of personal information could then be used to "trace the 'threads' of an individual's life" to see exactly how a relationship or events developed. Someone with access to the database could "retrieve a

specific thread of past transactions, or recall an experience from a few seconds ago or from many years earlier...by using a search-engine interface".

(Source: Wired, May 20, 2003, <http://www.wired.com>)

PENTAGON EYES NEW BIG BROTHER SPYING SYSTEM

The US Department of Defense is also developing a surveillance system which is designed to track and analyse the movement of every vehicle in a city.

Known as "Combat Zones That See", the project is intended to help the US military protect troops and fight in cities overseas, but scientists and privacy experts say the unclassified technology could also easily be adapted to keep tabs on civilians at home.

The project's centrepiece would be groundbreaking computer software capable of automatically identifying vehicles by size, colour, shape and licence plate, or drivers and passengers by face.

The Pentagon's program "aspires to build the world's first multi-camera surveillance system that uses automatic... analysis of live video" to study vehicle movement "and significant events across an extremely large area".

DARPA, which is overseeing the project, told more than 100 executives of potential contractors in March that 40 million cameras already are in use around the world, with 300 million expected by 2005. (Source: Wired, July 2, 2003, <http://www.wired.com>)



... GLOBAL NEWS ...

WEBSITE SERVICE KEEPS TABS ON GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

Annoyed by the prospect of a massive new federal surveillance system, two researchers at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology celebrated the Fourth of July by announcing a new Internet service that lets citizens create dossiers on government officials.

The system will start by offering standard background information on politicians and officials, but then will go one bold step further by asking Internet users to submit their own intelligence reports on government officials.

"It's sort of a citizens' intelligence agency," said Chris Csikszentmihalyi, Assistant Professor at the MIT Media Lab.

He and graduate student Ryan McKinley created the Government Information Awareness (GIA) project as a response to the US government's Total Information Awareness (TIA) program.

Revealed last year, the TIA aims to track possible terrorist activity by analysing vast amounts of information, including credit card data, stored in government and private databases. The actions of millions of people would be analysed in an effort to spot patterns that could indicate terrorist threats.

News of the plan outraged civil libertarians and prompted Congress to set limits on the scope of such activity. The Defense Department then renamed the program Terrorist Information Awareness, to ease public concern.

However, the controversy gave McKinley the idea for the GIA project.

"If total information exists," he said, "really, the same effort should be spent to make the same information at the leadership level at least as transparent—in my opinion, *more* transparent."

The result is a one-stop research site for basic information on key officials. It can be accessed via <http://opengov.media.mit.edu>.

(Source: Boston Globe, July 4, 2003, http://www.boston.com/dailyglobe2/185/business/Website_turns_tables_on_government_officials+.shtml)

SOLAR FLARE ACTIVITY AFFECTS EARTH'S TEMPERATURE

A recent study by researchers at Duke University and the US Army Research Office has found new evidence of a link between solar flare activity and the Earth's temperature. The work is another contribution to the ongoing debate over global warming and its causes. A strong link, if it exists, between solar flares and our climate could override the influence humans have on the temperature of our environment.

One of the challenges of determining the connection between solar flare activity and the atmosphere stems from the fact that the motion of the air that blankets our planet is turbulent and complex. A sudden burst of solar activity would, in effect, be smeared out by moving air and its interaction with the Earth's surface. Any temperature increase caused by a given period of solar flare activity would be difficult to determine, at best.

Rather than focus on such challenging one-to-one correlations, the new study compares the form of the statistical fluctuations in solar flare activity with the form of the statistical fluctuations of the Earth's temperature. The researchers found that a comparison of the mathematical coefficients that describe the fluctuations shows that the atmosphere directly inherits its temperature fluctuations from the variation in solar flare activity.

Unless some other underlying cause is

responsible for the unlikely correspondence between solar flares and the Earth's temperature, the research suggests that, for the large part, variations in global temperatures are beyond our control and are instead at the mercy of the Sun's activity. (Source: Paper by Nicola Scafetta and Bruce J. West, Physical Review Letters, June 20, 2003; release at <http://www.aip.org/enews/physnews/2003/split/642-2.html>)

USA AIMS TO CONTROL SPACE

The United States is planning to take control of parts of space and develop patrolling military aircraft in orbit as part of a revived "Star Wars" proposal for an American military empire above the ozone layer.

According to James Roche, the US Air Force Secretary, America's allies would have "no veto power" over projects designed to achieve American military control of space.

The key theme of the ambitious plan is described as "negation"—the denial of the use of space for military intelligence, or other purposes, without US endorsement.

The National Reconnaissance Office (NRO), the intelligence agency that is responsible for US spy satellites, is to develop a strategy that ensures America's allies, as well as its enemies, never gain access to the same space resources without Washington's permission. Recent proposals that have been circulated at Space Command and NRO briefings suggest that access to "near-Earth space" may be refused to other nations. All GPS satellites are located within near-Earth space, which covers the orbital distance from Earth to the Moon.

A fleet of spacecraft will be developed, designed to attack and destroy future satellites of enemies and rivals. The rapid-



launch "military space plane", the potential cost of which has not been disclosed, would also be used as a mobile "body-guard" for US space installations. It would be the first "space plane" in history designed just for a military function. A prototype is expected by 2005, although military deployment is not expected before 2014.

"It will hopefully be a new kind of vehicle, equipped for the challenges of the future," said a Pentagon official.

The Pentagon believes that the struggle to control space will form the next stage of a global arms race.

Until now, international treaties have forbidden the deployment of weapons in outer space, although a loophole exists which allows the United States to use its satellites for military intelligence.

The 1967 Space Treaty—the first international legislation on space exploitation—also stated that outer space should be free for exploration and use by *all* states, and would not be subject to national appropriation by occupation or any other means.

A US Department of Defense Review in 2001 also stated that "a key objective [for the US] is not only to ensure US ability to exploit space for military purposes but also as required to deny an adversary's ability to do so".

Canadian government officials have already complained that senior US officials have begun to exclude them from sensitive areas of joint aerospace defence operations.

The implications of a United States military monopoly in space are bound to con-

cern European allies, which have long resisted the prospect of military use of space technology.

In May, Russian foreign minister Sergei Ivanov repeated Moscow's demands for the complete demilitarisation of space.

(Source: Daily Telegraph, UK, June 8, 2003, <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/main.jhtml?xml=/news/2003/06/08/wspace08.xml>)

WERE RADIOACTIVE WEAPONS USED IN AFGHANISTAN?

A small sample of Afghan civilians has shown "astounding" levels of uranium in their urine, according to an independent scientist.

Dr Asaf Durakovic, Medical Director of the Uranium Medical Research Centre (UMRC) based in Toronto, Canada, suspects that *new* types of radioactive weapons were used in Afghanistan, as no traces have been found of the depleted uranium (DU) that some scientists believe is implicated in Gulf War syndrome.

Dr Durakovic is a former US Army adviser and now a professor of medicine. In 2000, he found "significant" DU levels in two-thirds of the Gulf veterans he had tested. In May 2002, he sent a team to Afghanistan to interview and examine civilians there for uranium contamination.

During the Afghanistan conflict in 2001–02, Nangarhar province was a strategic target zone for the deployment of a new generation of deep-penetrating, "cave-busting", seismic-shock warheads.

The UMRC says its team identified several hundred people suffering from illnesses and conditions similar to those of Gulf War veterans, probably because they had inhaled uranium dust.

To test its hypothesis that some form of uranium weapon had been used, the UMRC sent urine specimens from 17 Afghans for analysis at an independent UK laboratory. Some of the patients were from Jalalabad, and others from Kabul, Tora Bora and Mazar-e-Sharif.

"Without exception, every person donating urine specimens tested positive for uranium

internal contamination. The results were astounding: the donors presented concentrations of toxic and radioactive uranium isotopes between 100 and 400 times greater than in the Gulf veterans tested in 1999. If UMRC's Nangarhar findings are corroborated in other communities across Afghanistan, the country faces a severe public health disaster... Every subsequent generation is at risk."

Dr Durakovic said: "In Afghanistan there were no oil fires, no pesticides, nobody had been vaccinated—all explanations suggested for the Gulf veterans' condition. But people had exactly the same symptoms. I'm certainly not saying Afghanistan was a vast experiment with new uranium weapons. But use your common sense."

The UK Defence Ministry says that in Afghanistan it used no DU weapons nor any others containing uranium in any form.

A spokesman for the US Department of Defense told BBC News Online that the US had not used DU weapons there.

(Source: BBC News Online, May 22, 2003, <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/sci/tech/3050317.stm>; also see <http://www.umrc.net/index.asp>)

NEW US-BASED WEAPONS TO HAVE GLOBAL REACH

Allies are to become less important, as a new generation of weapons will enable the USA to strike anyone, anywhere—from within its own territory.

The Pentagon is planning a new generation of weapons, including huge hypersonic drones and bombs that can be dropped from space, which would free the US from dependence on forward bases and the cooperation of regional allies.

The new weapons are being developed under a program code-named FALCON (Force Application and Launch from Continental US).

According to DARPA, the ultimate goal is a "reusable hypersonic cruise vehicle (HCV)...capable of taking off from a conventional military runway and striking targets 9,000 nautical miles distant in less than two hours". The unmanned HCV would carry a payload of up to 12,000 pounds and fly at speeds of up to 10 times the speed of sound. DARPA estimates it will take more than 20 years to develop.

Meanwhile, over the next seven years the US Air Force and DARPA will develop a cheaper "global reach" weapons system relying on expendable rocket boosters



known as Small Launch Vehicles (SLVs) which would take a warhead into space and drop it over its target.

In US defence jargon, the warhead is known as a Common Aero Vehicle (CAV), an unpowered bomb which would be guided on to its target as it plummeted to earth at high and accelerating velocity.

The CAV could carry 1,000 pounds of explosives, but at those speeds explosives may not be necessary. A simple titanium rod would be able to penetrate 70 feet of solid rock and the shock wave would have enormous destructive force. It could be used against deeply buried bunkers—the sort of target the Air Force is looking for new ways to attack.

(Source: The Guardian, UK, July 1, 2003, <http://www.guardian.co.uk/us/story/0,12271,988612,00.html>)

LEADING CANCER RESEARCHER OPPOSES WATER FLUORIDATION

Dr Sam Epstein, Professor Emeritus of Environmental and Occupational Medicine at the University of Illinois, Chairman of the Cancer Prevention Coalition and author of *The Politics of Cancer*, wrote on 29 May in support of British MP John Butterfill's motion (EDM 1258) opposing water fluoridation:

"Fluoridation of water reflects high receptivity to the fluoride industry, and indifference with significant public health penalties to the UK population. I should further note that some 100 leading national and international cancer prevention scientists and representatives of consumer and environmental organizations have endorsed the Cancer Prevention Coalition's opposition to fluoride in its Stop Cancer Before It Starts campaign report.

"Fluoride used for this purpose comes from highly contaminated industrial-grade fluorosilicic wastes; contaminants include heavy metals. Furthermore, there is significant experimental evidence that fluoride induces a dose-related incidence of bone cancer in rats. This is further supported by epidemiological studies incriminating fluoride and bone cancer in young men.

"It should further be noted that fluoride is currently added to the water supply of about 60% of the US population. This is in sharp contrast to only 2% of the European population, which has much lower rates of dental caries."

(Source: UK National Pure Water Association press release, June 5, 2003, <http://www.npwa.freeserve.co.uk>)

THE CRIMES OF THE PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY

IN THE NAME OF THE PEOPLE OF THE WORLD

Complaint Against Genocide and Other Crimes Against Humanity
Committed in Connection with the Pharmaceutical "Business with Disease"
and the Recent War Against Iraq

This complaint is submitted to the International Criminal Court
by Matthias Rath, MD, and others on behalf of the people of the world.
The Hague, June 14, 2003

This complaint brings before the International Court of Justice (ICC) the greatest crimes ever committed in the course of human history. The accused are charged with causing injury to and the death of millions of people through the "business with disease", war crimes and other crimes against humanity. These crimes fall under the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court.

The accused know that they will be held accountable for these crimes, and they have therefore embarked on a global campaign to undermine the authority of the ICC in order to put themselves above international law and continue their crimes to the detriment of all mankind. Therefore, the current complaint must be considered by the ICC with utmost urgency. Moreover, every natural person and every government is hereby called upon to join this complaint, with the goal to once and for all terminate these crimes.

The charges presented in this complaint relate to two main fields of crime:

- Genocide and other crimes against humanity committed in connection with the pharmaceutical business with disease.
- Crimes of war and aggression and other crimes against humanity committed in connection with the recent war against Iraq and the international escalation towards a world war.

These two fields of crime are directly related and connected by one factor: they are committed in the name and interest of the same corporate investment groups and their political stakeholders.

Throughout the 20th century, the pharmaceutical industry was built and organised with the goal of controlling healthcare systems around the world by systematically replacing natural, non-patentable therapies with patentable and therefore profitable synthetic drugs. This industry did not evolve naturally. To the contrary, it was an investment decision taken by a handful of wealthy and unscrupulous entrepreneurs.

The accused are responsible for the deaths of hundreds of millions of people who continue to die from cardiovascular disease, cancer and other diseases that could have been prevented and largely eliminated long ago. This premature death of millions of people is the result of neither coincidence nor negligence. It has been wilfully and systematically organised on behalf of the pharmaceutical industry and its investors, with the sole purpose being to expand a global drug market worth trillions of dollars.

The marketplace of the pharmaceutical industry is the human body, and its return on investment depends on the continuation and expansion of diseases. Its profits depend on the patentability of drugs, rendering this industry the most profitable industry on planet Earth. In contrast, the prevention and eradication of any disease significantly reduces or totally eliminates the markets for pharmaceutical drugs.

The governments of entire nations are manipulated or even run by lobbyists and former executives of the pharmaceutical industry. For decades, the legislation of entire nations has been corrupted and abused to promote this multitrillion-dollar "business with disease", thereby risking the health and lives of hundreds of millions of innocent patients and people.

A precondition for the rise of the pharmaceutical industry as a successful investment business is the elimination of competition from safe and natural therapies, because these are not patentable and their profit margins are small. In addition, these natural therapies can effectively help prevent and eliminate diseases because of their essential roles in cellular metabolism. As a result of the systematic elimination of natural health therapies and the takeover of the healthcare systems in most countries of the world, the pharmaceutical industry has brought millions of people and almost all nations into dependency upon its investment business.

[Editor's Note: To read the complete 36-page document, visit Dr Matthias Rath's website at <http://www.4-dr-rath-foundation.org/>]